



# *HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND*

*HARFORD COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
PUBLIC INPUT MEETING  
JULY 15, 2014*

# PUBLIC MEETING

## Agenda

- **Planning Period & Schedule**
- **Existing Solid Waste Disposal Facilities**
- **Proposed Disposal Plan beginning March 2016**
- **Solid Waste Phone Survey**
- **Issues to Consider in Future**
  - **Public Convenience**
  - **MDE Zero-Waste Plan**
  - **Financial Sustainability**
  - **Efficient & Cost-Effective Trash & Recycling Collection**
- **Comments**

# PLANNING PERIOD

- **10- Year Planning Period**  
**March 2015 – March 2024**

# SCHEDULE

- **January 2014 - Solid Waste/Recycling Opinion Phone Survey**
- **July 2014 - Public Input Meeting**
- **Fall 2014 - Develop Draft Plan**
- **January 2015 – Introduce Legislation**
- **February 2015 – Public Hearing on Proposed Plan w/ County Council**
- **March 2015 – Submit Final Plan to MDE**

## EXISTING DISPOSAL FACILITIES

- **Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility**
- **Harford Waste Disposal Center**
- **Tollgate Yard Trim Drop-Off Facility**

# **HARFORD WASTE TO ENERGY FACILITY**

Magnolia Road, Joppa



HARFORD WASTE TO ENERGY

## Facts

- **360 ton per day facility ( $\approx$  110,000 tons per year)**
- **Army Steam Supply Agreement expires March 2016.**
- **Army can not extend 30-yr Agreement.**
- **Army does not wish to continue operation.**
- **Army will require facility and steam lines to be removed by 2019.**



# HARFORD WASTE DISPOSAL CENTER

Scarboro Road, Street

- **Landfill**
- **Homeowner Drop-Off**
- **Mulch and Compost Facility**
- **Recycling Transfer Station**

# HARFORD WASTE DISPOSAL CENTER LANDFILL



Dublin Road (MD Rte 440)

Landfill Entrance/Exit

Scarboro Road

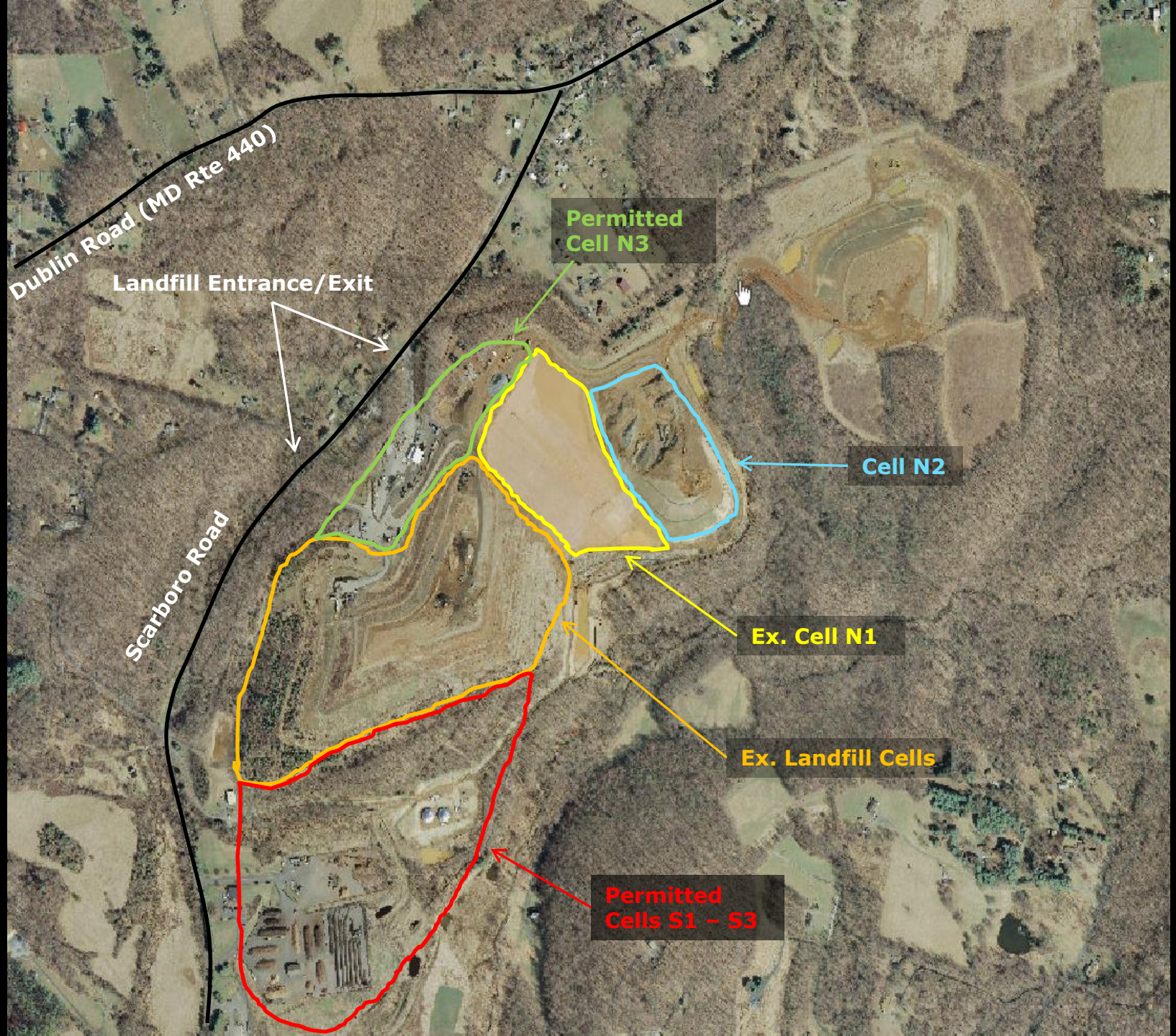
Permitted  
Cell N3

Cell N2

Ex. Cell N1

Ex. Landfill Cells

Permitted  
Cells S1 - S3









## Facts

- **Total capacity will only last until 2025.**
- **Cell N3 and Cells S1-S3 require the relocation of significant facilities and the associated land to relocate them.**
- **Siting new Landfill with 20-yr capacity will, depending on environmental site restrictions, require a 400-500 acre site (includes support facilities and buffers).**
- **Upcoming State regulations will likely phase-out use of in-State landfills.**
- **Landfilling is not a Sustainable Solution.**

# **HARFORD WASTE DISPOSAL CENTER MULCH AND COMPOST FACILITY**







## Facts

- **Facility accepts leaves & grass which is processed into compost.**
- **Facility accepts brush & limbs which is processed into mulch.**
- **40,000 Tons per Year.**
- **Currently able to turn over inventory annually.**
- **New composting regulations expected to be promulgated later this year by MDE. To be tailored for each of the three types of feed stocks. (ie. leaves and grass, food waste, and biosolids).**



# **HARFORD WASTE DISPOSAL CENTER RECYCLING TRANSFER STATION**







## Facts

- **Unable to handle truck volume.**
- **No room for truck queuing.**
- **Small and congested site.**
- **Not Consistent w/Industry Standards – Enclosed Building.**

# TOLLGATE YARD TRIM DROP-OFF FACILITY





Drop-Off Facility

County Home Rd

N Tollgate Rd

N Tollgate Rd

Belair Byp

Belair Byp

Canterbury Rd

Churchill Rd

## Facts

- **Hours of Operation Limited to Budget constraints.**
- **Over 2000 Vehicles on some Saturdays.**
- **Small and congested site.**
- **Unable to expand much and process mulch and compost due to space restrictions from existing landfill.**



# PROPOSED DISPOSAL PLAN (2016)

## Arrangements

- **Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Agreement with Army terminates on March 17, 2016.**
- **At that time, WTE plant and HWDC landfill will no longer receive waste from commercial haulers.**
- **Solid waste disposal Agreement with Baltimore County approved by County Council and executed in 2013 will commence.**
- **All trash collection trucks will be directed to transport and dispose Harford trash and single stream recyclables to Baltimore County.**



# PROPOSED DISPOSAL PLAN (2016)

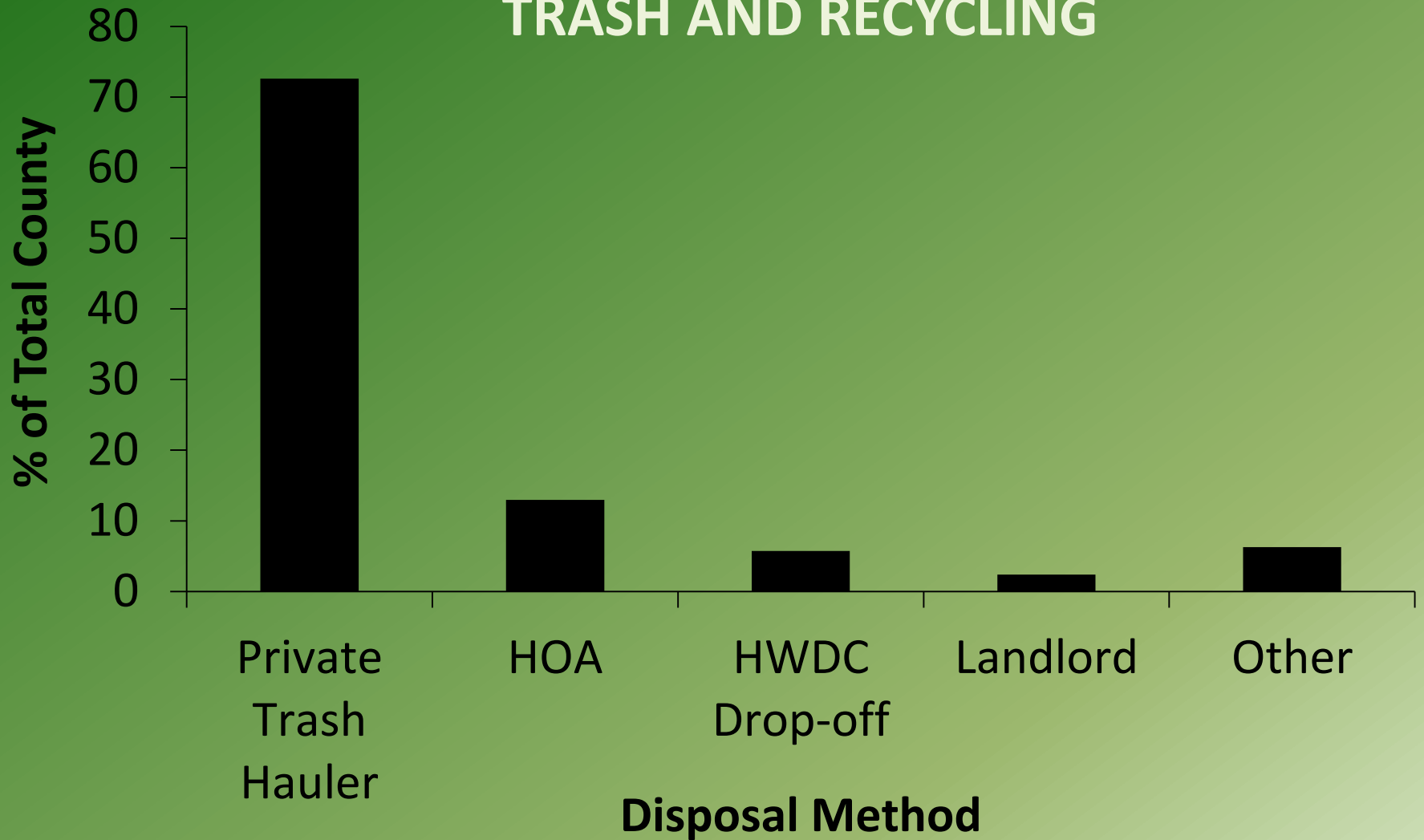
## Arrangements (Continued)

- **HWDC Homeowner drop-off facility will remain open Monday – Saturday.**
- **HWDC Mulch and Compost facility will remain open Monday – Saturday for businesses and residents to drop off yard trim and to pick-up mulch and compost.**
- **Tollgate Yard Trim facility to remain open on Saturdays to residents only.**
- **Baltimore County's facility will not be open to County residents. Only use by private trash companies and municipalities.**

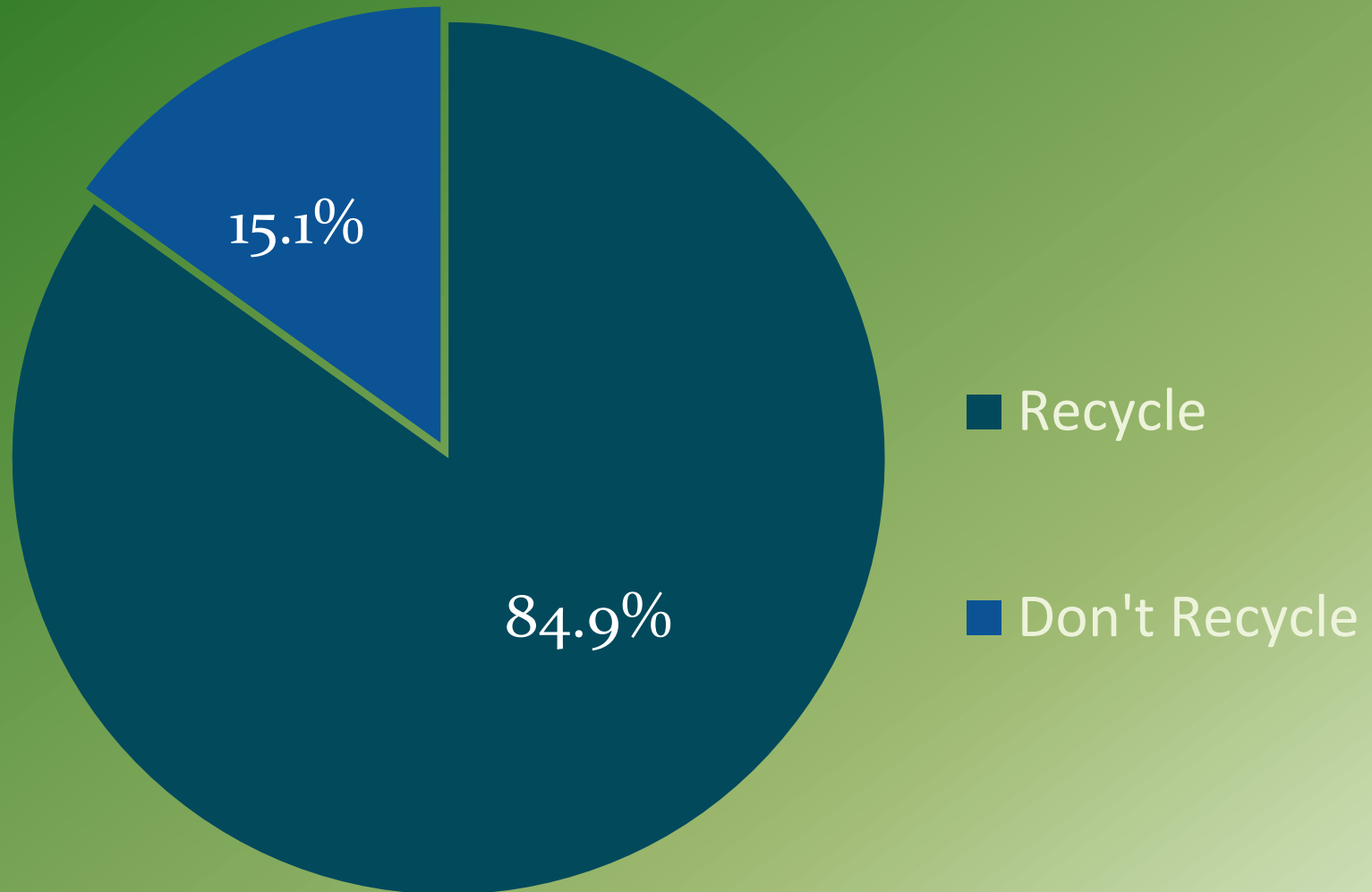
# **SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING PHONE SURVEY**

- **Performed January 2014 by Pinnacle Communications on behalf of Harford County.**
- **748 Respondents.**
- **Respondents chosen by random and broken down by zip code.**
- **The number of respondents chosen for each zip code ensured the survey results were statistically significant and not skewed.**
- **5 minute survey.**

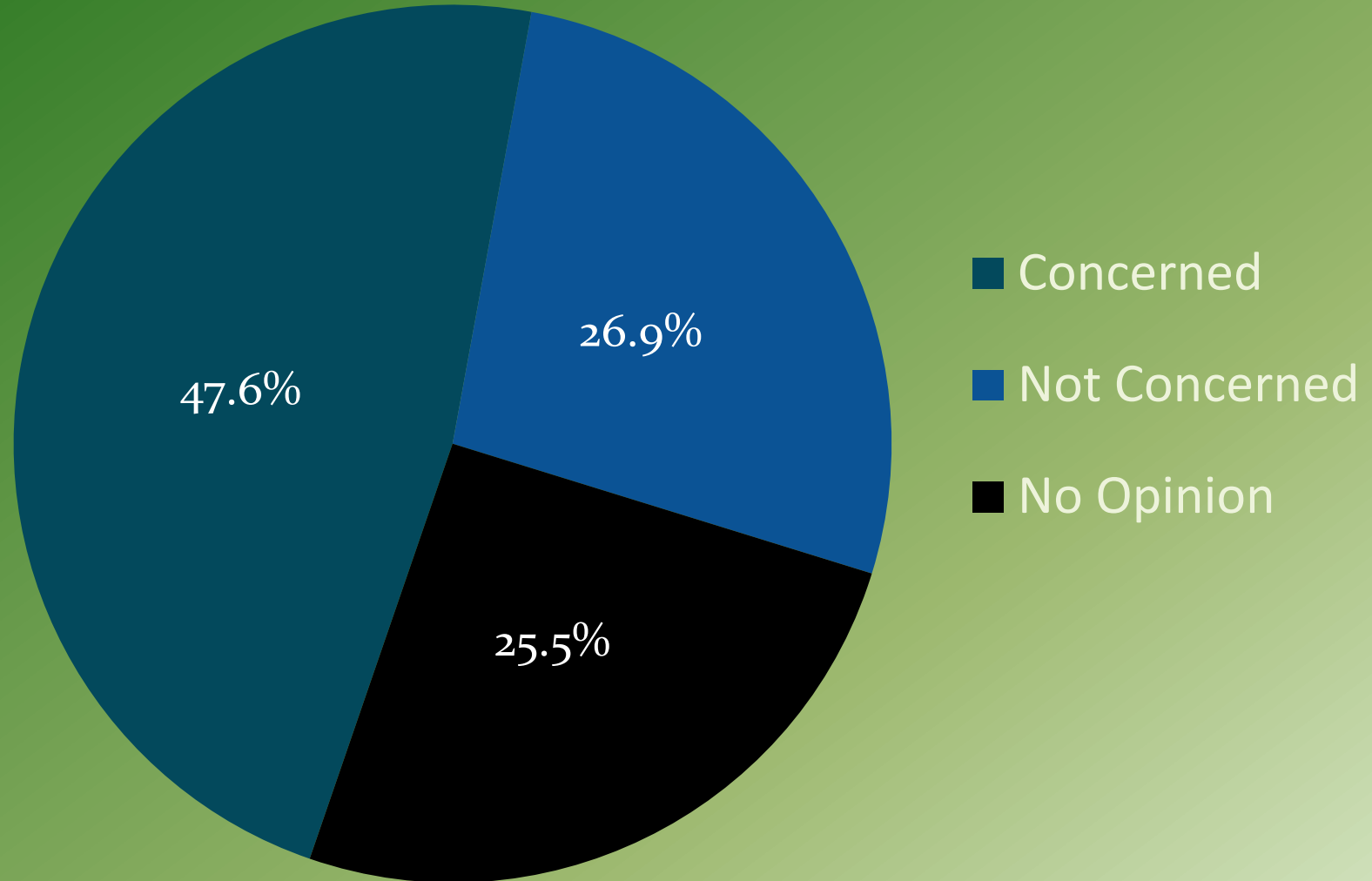
# METHOD BY WHICH RESIDENTS DISPOSE OF TRASH AND RECYCLING



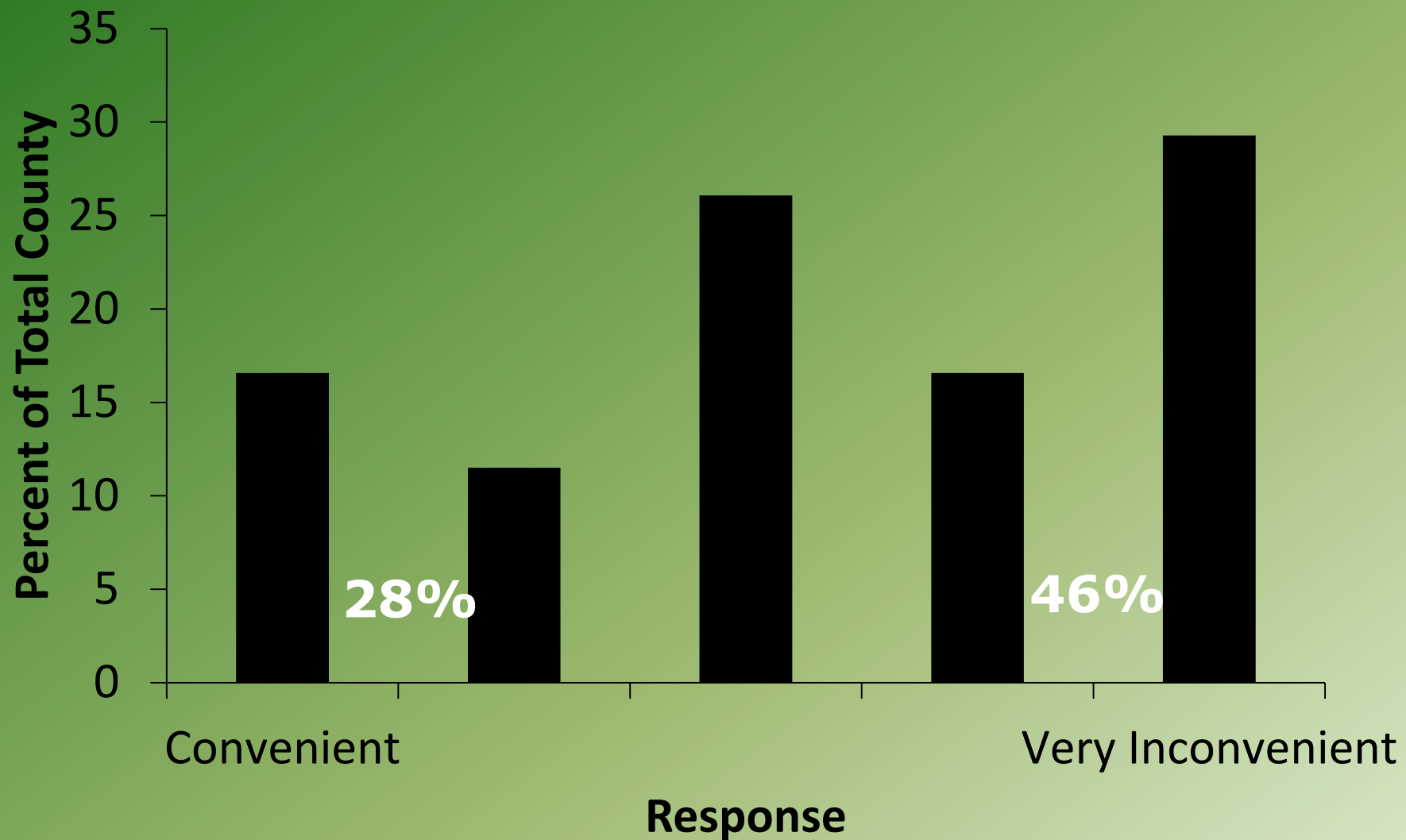
# COUNTY-WIDE RECYCLING PARTICIPATION



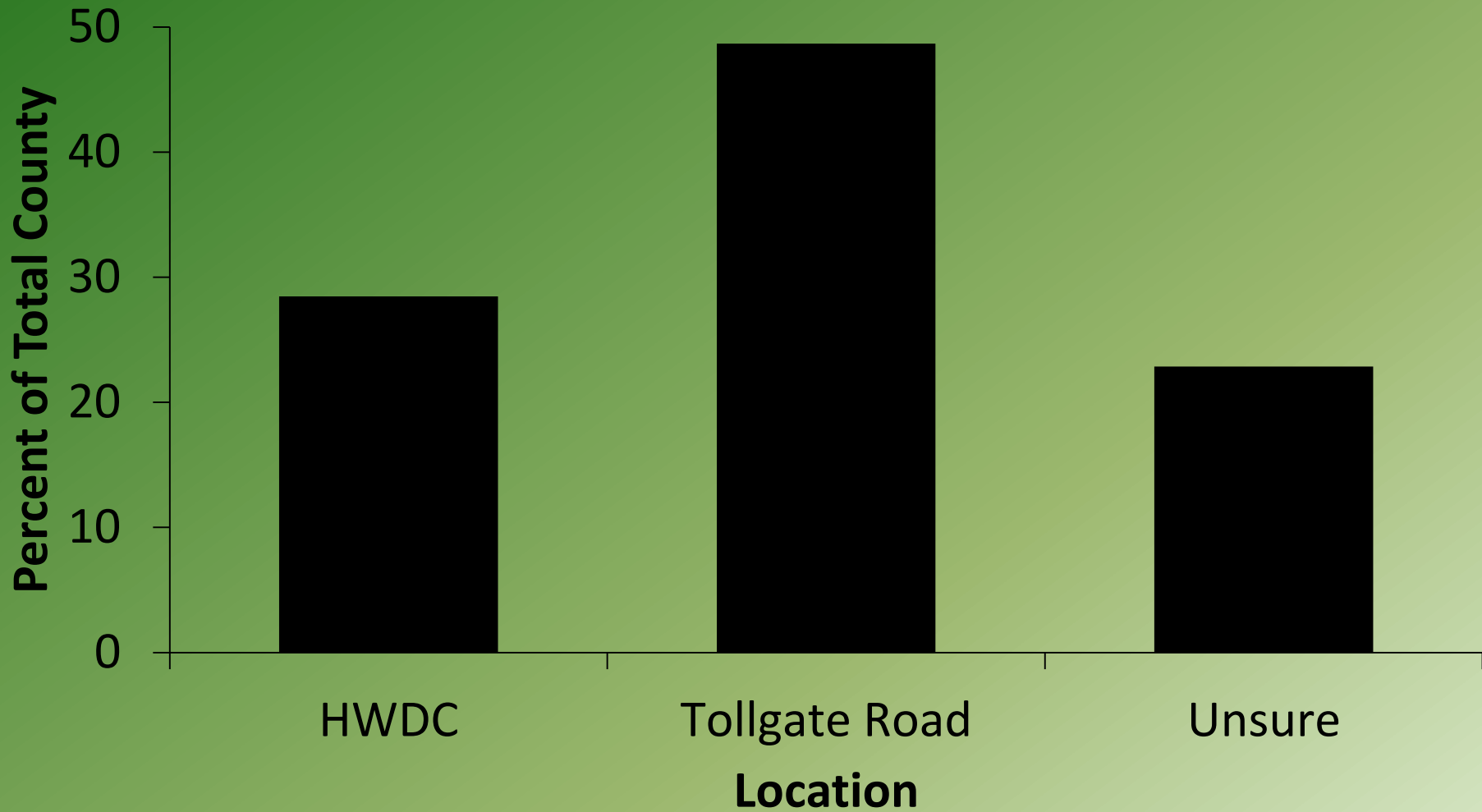
# CONCERN OVER COUNTY'S INABILITY TO CONTROL PRIVATE COLLECTION COSTS



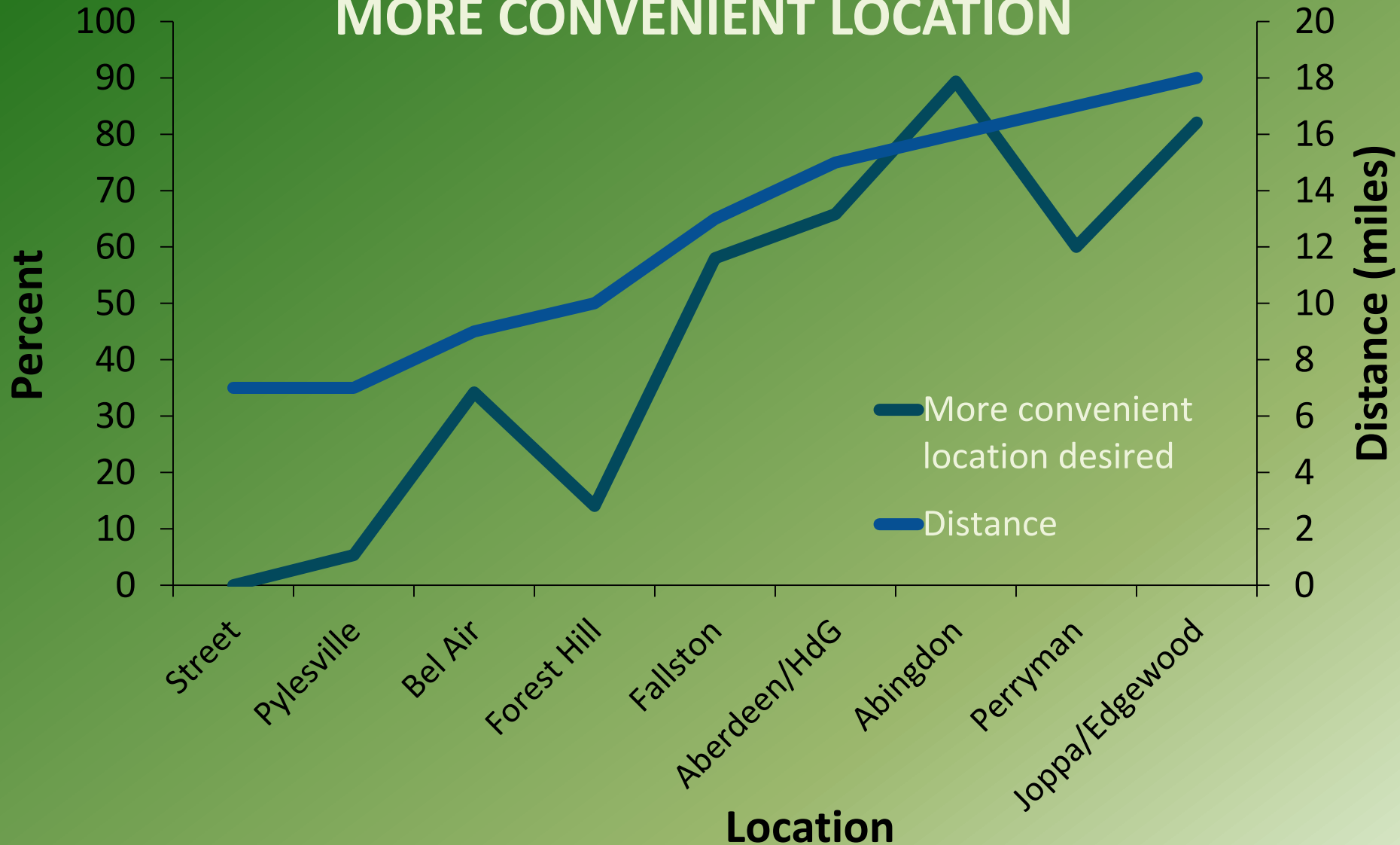
## CONVENIENCE OF THE HWDC



# PREFERRED YARD WASTE DROP-OFF LOCATION



# DISTANCE FROM HWDC AND DESIRE FOR MORE CONVENIENT LOCATION





# FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

## Public Convenience

- **HWDC is not convenient to many.**
- **Should there be another Home-Owner drop-off facility closer to the greater population?**
- **Should there be another mulch and compost facility closer to the greater population?**
- **If so, where should they be?**
- **What metrics should be used that balances both convenience to the public and separation from residential areas?**
- **Good buildable land that meets the zoning criteria is scarce and expensive. Is the convenience of these facilities worth the expense?**

# FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

## Maryland Department of Environment Zero-Waste Plan

- **Draft Plan presented for public input May 2014.**
- **Zero Waste Goals:**
  - **Divert at least 85% of all waste for disposal by 2040 (through source reduction, recycling, reuse, and composting).**
  - **Overall Recycling Goal of 80% by 2040.**
  - **Recycle at least 90% food scraps by 2040.**
  - **Recycle at least 90% yard waste by 2040.**

# FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

## A Portion of the MDE Zero-Waste Plan Objectives

- **Divert 100% of all waste from Maryland landfills by 2040.**
- **Mandatory food waste diversion for businesses and institutions by 2020. Require everyone have access to recycling services for food waste by 2030 and encourage food waste composting and anaerobic digestion facilities.**
- **Phase-in disposal bans on recyclables (mandate recycling).**
- **Disposal bans on electronic waste (mandate electronics recycling).**
- **Ban the sale of non-recyclable materials.**
- **Adopt a bottle bill.**
- **Recover energy from waste (anaerobic digestion and WTE only after all recycling efforts are maximized)**

# FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

## Financial Sustainability

- **Currently the Division of Environmental Services annual operating budget is funded by revenue from solid waste fees (\$12.5M) as well as the General Fund (\$1.7M in FY15). Debt service on the capital budget is funded from General Fund.**
- **Consider converting Division of Environmental Services to either Enterprise Fund or Special Revenue Fund.**
- **All operating and capital expenses would be paid for by all generators of waste and recycling.**
- **Requires no financial support from General Fund.**
- **Requires new solid waste fee structure.**

# FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

## Efficient and Cost-Effective Trash & Recycling Collection

- **Currently trash and recycling collection is accomplished under free enterprise system.**
- **Residents and businesses are free to choose their own trash collection provider.**
- **Current system has inefficiencies as multiple companies may service the same neighborhood increasing truck traffic and fuel costs.**
- **Contractors have no guarantee in their customer base. Collection fees factor in inherent risks and marketing costs.**
- **If some companies have a market edge in customer base and service area coverage, pricing may become skewed.**

# FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

## Efficient and Cost-Effective Trash & Recycling Collection

- Explore feasibility to contract residential trash and recycling collection for residents.
- Divide County into districts and companies would bid on one or more districts for a multi-year period.
- Establish uniform rates for residential trash and recycling collection County-wide.
- Due to a more efficient system, fees may be less than many residents currently pay.
- County would control performance of the companies through contracts.
- Would there be interest if trash collection costs (2013 dollars) would be around \$75/quarter for everyone?

# **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**

**Presentation, complete phone survey  
and the Draft MDE Zero-Waste Plan  
can be viewed at County website July  
16, 2014 at**

**[www.harfordcountymd.gov](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov).**

**County residents and businesses may  
submit comments and suggestions up  
until August 15, 2014 at**

**[env@harfordcountymd.gov](mailto:env@harfordcountymd.gov).**